

The Asia Foundation
Combating Trafficking of Women and Children
CA No. 367-A-00-01-00130-00

PROGRESS REPORT
January - March 2002

Summary of Program Activities in Current Reporting Period:

- **New agreements***
- **Partners' work status**
- **Baseline survey**
- **Training activities**
- **IEC coordination committee**
- **Monitoring and evaluation**

New agreements

Pursuant to Objective 2: Strengthened and Expanded Rehabilitation/Reintegration Services, in January the Foundation signed a subagreement with CVICT for conducting training for partner organizations in psycho-social counseling and case management.

Partners' work status

The NGO Federation established its Dhading field office, recruited staff, and conducted initial orientation on trafficking. The staff are currently visiting VDCs in the district to collect information and familiarize themselves with the area.

Maiti Nepal established its Banke field office, recruited staff, and conducted initial orientation.

CeLRRd established its Chitwan field office, and staff are currently conducting training of trainers (TOT) for volunteers. They held a familiarization and coordination meeting to introduce the project to representatives of the local bar association, CDO, DDO, SSP, and VDCs.

ABC Nepal established its Nawalparasi field office, recruited staff, and conducted initial orientation.

WOREC established its office in Dhanusa, completed its staff selection, and conducted an initial orientation for VDCs. It developed program guidelines for staff, who as part of their initial assignment will prepare VDC profiles. Another simple brochure was prepared for the general community. On migration, WOREC held an initial meeting with trade union representatives and the Ministry of Labor to discuss concerns related to employment agencies. They are compiling information on labor recruitment that will be included in a discussion paper. They also are

*A listing of current subgrant agreements is attached to this report.

analyzing information collected by GEFUNC, CWIN, and ILO. The search for migration specialists to conduct training of Master Trainers is underway.

On March 31, NNAGT conducted a talk program entitled “A Basic Need of Research and Database Documentation to Combat Trafficking in Women and Children.” Attended by key stakeholders and NGOs involved in trafficking, the talk was interactive and well received.

FWLD circulated a Nepali translation of the present SAARC convention to key stakeholders, NGOs, and the Ministry as a precursor to discussion on the same.

Baseline survey

CeLRRd took the lead in preparing the baseline survey, which all partners began implementing in late February and March. Data entry will begin in April, with collation and analysis completed in June. The Foundation will be responsible for overall analysis of data from the five project districts.

Communication with the Ministry

The Foundation sent a letter to the Ministry of Women, Children, and Social Welfare on January 28 informing them of the activities to be conducted under the project, with special mention of planned work with anti-trafficking task forces. Program Officer Pankaja Bhattarai met with the Under Secretary on March 27 to brief her on the project and seek the Ministry’s cooperation. The Under Secretary emphasized the need to avoid duplication with other agencies.

Training activities

WOREC conducted a three-day conceptual clarity training workshop for partners engaged in community education from January 24-26. There were 14 participants in the workshop, all senior level staff associated with this project.

The Foundation conducted a half-day financial training workshop for partners of both its Trafficking and Advocacy projects on February 18. The purpose of the workshop was to ensure that staff are familiar with USAID and Asia Foundation financial and grant management policies and procedures.

WOREC conducted Training of Trainers (TOT) for senior-level staff of all partners from February 27 to March 11 at the Bhaktapur Guest House. A half-day clarity session on coordination among partners was included on March 11.

CVICT’s psycho-social counseling training began on February 20 and will continue for a five-month period. There are 12 participants: CVICT (1), WOREC (4), ABC Nepal (3), and Maiti Nepal (4).

IEC coordination committee

An IEC coordination committee was formed, comprised of the central-level Program Coordinators of each of the five partners responsible for district-based prevention education. Meetings were held on March 22 and 29, in which the committee selected available IEC materials for use under the project prepared by CeLRRd, WOREC, the Foundation, and

JIT/Ministry. The materials will be reprinted and used for the program. The coordination committee will also review any IEC materials produced under this project to ensure their consonance with the rights-based approach.

Monitoring and evaluation

The Program Officer kept regular contact with the partners by telephone and site visits. She also attended various training workshops and meetings. A second Steering Committee meeting was held with all partners on February 14. The issues discussed included coordination between partners, and how to maximize project outputs. Most partners acknowledged modest delays because of the political situation, but were confident the delays could be recouped later in the year.

Issues and Challenges during this period:

- **Project coordination**
- **Political unrest**
- **Ministry support**

Project coordination

Coordination among partners was challenging, requiring ongoing communication by the Foundation and flexibility by partners in addressing areas of disagreement. Participation by all five partners in the Steering Committee is a significant achievement.

Political unrest

Although political unrest sometimes disrupted activities, partners express confidence in their ability to implement activities in the Year 1 Workplan on schedule. Banke and Dhading face greater challenges due to political unrest than the other three districts.

Ministry support

Work with the task forces initially was delayed while the partners awaited a letter from the Ministry formalizing their relationship to the task forces. With no letter forthcoming, the partners are now interacting directly with the involved district-level agencies.

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SUBGRANT AGREEMENTS AS OF MARCH 2002

Subgrantee	Title	Subgrant Period	Obligation (US Dollars)
CeLRRD	Combating trafficking of women and girls in Nepal	12/01 - 11/02	42,707
WOREC	Combating trafficking of women and girls in Nepal	12/01 - 11/02	77,610
NGO Federation	Combating trafficking of women and girls in Nepal	12/01 - 11/02	36,182
ABC Nepal	Combating trafficking of women and girls in Nepal	12/01 - 11/02	18,120
CIVICT	Combating trafficking of women and girls in Nepal	01/02 - 01/03	40,401
Maiti Nepal	Combating trafficking of women and girls in Nepal	12/01 - 11/02	17,246
FWLD	Review of Draft SAARC Anti-trafficking Convention	01/02 - 06/02	8,864
NNAGT	Anti-trafficking Programs thru NGO networks	01/02 - 12/02	18,165